

CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 27 September, 2011 7:00 pm
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Joyce Higgins, Terry Spilsbury, Carol Clark, alternate Sue Richardson, Select Board member Doug Ring

Absent: Barbara Jones, Eric Lutz, and alternate Aare Ilves

The Charlestown Heritage Commission was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairperson Terry Spilsbury. Sue was seated as alternate in the absence of Barbara and Eric.

1. Wes made a motion to approve the minutes for the 23 August, 2011 meeting, seconded by Sue, and the minutes were unanimously passed.

2. Terry provided an update for the financial report regarding 3rd History expenses for the months of May, June, and July 2011. He stated that these figures are now entered into the budget report, and that he and Aare both spoke to Jessica regarding the segregated accounts for the Charlestown Heritage Commission. The only change in the budget report in September was the entry for bench labor and materials. This report will be put on file for audit.

3a. Joyce received Eric's submission and is working on the 3rd History project relative to Main Street updates with the help of Marty Mortenson and the Van Velsors. Joyce is working with deeds and the difficulties of properties that were split up and divided among new property owners. Joyce will invite David and Jeanne Moody to the next Heritage Commission meeting where they may give counsel regarding the publication aspects of the 3rd History.

3b. Terry advised that there is nothing to add at this point regarding the 3rd History publication. He expects to come back to the Selectboard with budget entries. He will submit a figure for the operating budget but needs to take more time to come up with 3rd History publication costs. Terry, Eric, and Wes will meet before the next Heritage Commission meeting to discuss book budget and publication costs, timing, the amount to request for publication, fund-raising strategies, and what to do with proceeds from the sales. Terry will also talk with Eric to suggest that the Heritage Commission speak with Jim Fowler regarding publication.

4. There have been several positive comments regarding the new bench placed on the library lawn. This will be the only bench placed this year, and the Commission expects that the balance of the funds for 2011 with new funds for 2012 will be used for more benches next year. The Commission will discuss next bench placements in future meetings. Terry will get a card and write a note of thanks to Barbara Jones for her monetary donation. It was noted that fascia has been put on the new planter box by the bulletin board since the last Commission meeting and that the planter box looks tidy.

5. There has been a fair amount of activity since the last meeting regarding the Town Hall. There was one meeting where Terry and Joyce were both in attendance, and they mentioned that Judi Baraly was spearheading a committee comprised of members from several civic groups to

address the Town Hall improvements. Judi Baraly has finished the application for an L Chip Grant to request financial aid, and she and Joyce drove to Concord to submit the application. It was agreed that the Charlestown Heritage Commission will act as steward of the Town Hall, and the Selectboard wrote a letter stating this arrangement. We are not sure at this point what that title/role may entail. The Commission will learn more regarding further involvement as steward and how that role will play out.

6. There is no news regarding the Fort at #4 activities at this time.

7. Doug Ring said that they are moving ahead regarding cannon housing. He stated that the housing design will look like the housing in Newport, NH.

8. Terry drafted an article on the new bench for the next issue of Our Town.

9. Joyce suggested that she would like to see the Town Hall receive a plaque to display that it is on the National Register of Historic Places. Terry will look at design choices for a plaque and have them ready for the next meeting.

Budget worksheets for Jessica need to be in by October 14th. Last year we requested \$2,500 from the town and the Selectboard recommended we ask for only \$2,000. Of that \$2,000., this year we gave back \$500. to the Tree Committee for the loan for signs, and we have already used half of our \$1,500 for the bench in 2011. We would need the remainder of the 2011 budget, an additional \$1500 for two more benches, and additional funds to cover the plaque, essay contest, and other minor projects. After a review of possible projects, it was moved that the Commission would ask for \$3,500. for its operating budget for 2012, seconded by Wes, and unanimously passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for October 25, 7:00 pm at the Bakery building.

Carol Clark
Secretary

Approved minutes